

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 5 to 7 and 16 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein.

Please amend Claims 1 and 2 to read as follows. Please note that all pending claims are presented below for the Examiner's convenience.

1. (Currently Amended) An emitted-radio-wave shield comprising:
a shield box housing a circuit board;
a shield plate removably secured to said shield box; and
a shield member formed from a resilient body, which is disposed at a joint between said shield box and said shield plate, and is attached to one of said shield box and said shield plate, for shielding emitted radio waves from the circuit board in a state in which said shield plate is secured to said shield box;

wherein the other one of said shield box and said shield plate is formed to have a plurality of protrusions, which project toward said shield member, so as to contact and press said shield member, such that a surface of said shield member deforms in a concave shape so as to engage with said protrusions.

2. (Currently Amended) The shield according to claim 1, wherein the plurality of protrusions are formed on said other one of said shield box and said shield plate at regular intervals.

3. (Previously Amended) The shield according to claim 2, wherein the regular interval is 60 mm or less.

Claims 4 to 8 (Cancelled).

9. (Previously Amended) An emitted-radio-wave shield comprising:
a shield box housing a circuit board, said shield box having an opening, which is formed to include a flange, and locking means;
a shield plate removably secured to the flange; and
a shield member formed from a resilient body and, which is disposed on the flange constituting a joint between said shield box and said shield plate and is attached to said shield box, for shielding emitted radio waves from the circuit board in a state in which said shield plate is secured to said shield box;
wherein said shield plate is formed to have a plurality of protrusions, which project toward said shield member, so as to contact and press said shield member;
one edge of said shield plate is formed to have projections and said flange is formed to have corresponding through-holes for mating with respective ones of the projections; and
an edge of said shield plate opposite said one edge is formed to have a locking portion for locking engagement with said locking means of said shield box.

10. (Original) The shield according to claim 9, wherein said plurality of protrusions are formed on said shield plate at regular intervals.

11. (Previously Amended) The shield according to claim 10, wherein the regular interval is 60 mm or less.

Claim 12 (Cancelled).

13. (Previously Amended) An image forming apparatus comprising:
an image processing circuit board that converts an image to an electrical signal and processes the electrical signal of the image; and
an emitted-radio-wave shield comprising:
a shield box housing said image processing circuit board;
a shield plate removably secured to said shield box; and
a shield member formed from a resilient body and, which is disposed at a joint between said shield box and said shield plate and is attached to said shield box, for shielding emitted radio waves from the circuit board in a state in which said shield plate is secured to said shield box;
wherein said shield plate is formed to have a plurality of protrusions, which project toward said shield member, so as to contact and press said shield member, such that a surface of said shield member deforms in a concave shape so as to engage with said protrusions.

14. (Previously Added) The emitted-radio-wave shield according to Claim 1, wherein said shield box has a locking means, and said shield plate has a locking portion to be locked to said locking means.

15. (Previously Added) An emitted-radio-wave shield according to
Claim 1, wherein said shield member is attached in electrical connection to said shield box.

Claim 16 (Cancelled).

17. (Previously Added) An emitted-radio-wave shield according to
Claim 9, wherein said shield member is attached in electrical connection to said shield box.

CONCLUSION

Claims 1 to 3, 9 to 11, 13 to 15 and 17 now are presented for examination.

Claims 1, 9 and 13 are the independent claims. Claims 4 to 7 and 16 have been canceled.

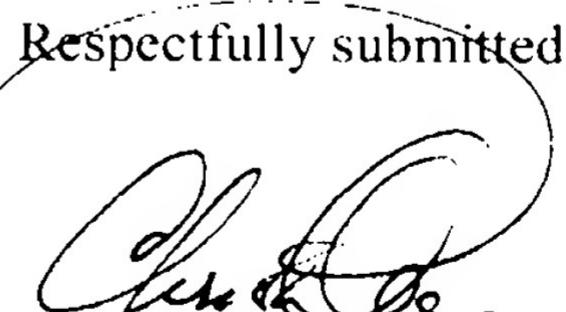
Claims 1 and 2 have been amended herein.

Without conceding the propriety of the Examiner's characterization, independent Claim 1 has been amended herein to generically recite the features of prior independent Claims 1 and 5: independent Claim 1 generically reads on each of Specie I (Fig. 2A) and Specie II (Fig. 2B). Accordingly, Claims 5 to 7 and 16 have been cancelled in favor or amended Claims 1 to 3 and 15. No new matter has been added.

Applicant believes that the present paper is fully responsive to each of the points raised by the Examiner in the Official Action. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the election of species/restriction requirement, and consideration on the merits of all pending claims at the Examiner's earliest convenience earnestly are solicited.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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